

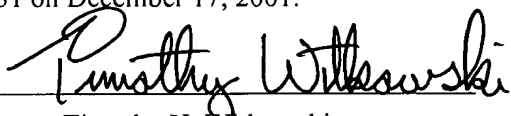
**Remarks**

- Claims 1 to 52 were pending and before the Examiner. New claims 53 to 95 have been added hereby. Applicants maintain that no new matter has been added thereby and therefore respectfully request that the Examiner enter the new claims presented. Claims 1 to 95 are now pending and before the Examiner in this application.

Applicants submit that all the pending claims are allowable and respectfully solicit a Notice of Allowance for all of the pending claims. If the Examiner feels that a telephone interview would be helpful in advancing prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the attorney below.

**Certificate of Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on December 17, 2001.

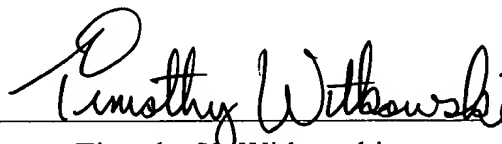


Timothy X. Witkowski  
Registration No. 40,232

12-17-2001

Dated

Respectfully submitted,



Timothy X. Witkowski  
Registration No. 40,232  
Attorney for Applicants

BOEHRINGER INGELHEIM CORPORATION  
Patent Department  
900 Ridgebury Road  
P.O. Box 368  
Ridgefield, CT 06877  
Telephone: (203) 798-4310  
Facsimile: (203) 798-4408